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SPECIAL ECONOMIC AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL PROGRAMMES OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Emergency assistance to the Sudan and Operation Lifeline Sudan

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 46/178 of 19 December 1991, on emergency assistance to the Sudan and Operation Lifeline Sudan, the General Assembly, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with the Government of the Sudan, to continue to coordinate the efforts of the United Nations system to help the Sudan in its emergency, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes, to mobilize resources for the implementation of those programmes and to keep the international community informed of the needs of that country. The Assembly also called upon the international community to contribute generously to the appeal made in the Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for the Special Emergency Programme for the Horn of Africa.

2. The General Assembly further requested the Secretary-General to continue to assess the progress of the evolving emergency situation and to report to the Assembly at its forty-seventh session on all matters connected with the implementation of emergency and relief operations in the Sudan. The present report has been prepared in response to that request.

II. CURRENT SITUATION IN THE SUDAN

3. Since the last report of the Secretary-General on emergency assistance to the Sudan and Operation Lifeline Sudan (A/46/452 of 24 September 1991), there has been little improvement in the basic situation and the plight of those affected by drought, civil conflict and displacement has worsened.

4. It is estimated that in the 1991/92 season, agricultural production in mechanized and irrigated areas increased significantly; however, traditional rain-fed subsistence farming continued to suffer from drought, lack of inputs and instability. The overall food supply situation remains extremely difficult and in some areas critical (Darfur, Kordofan, Upper Nile, Bahr el-Ghazal, Central and Eastern States). The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) reports that rainfall this year is average to above average throughout most of the Sudan and prospects are for a good harvest. However, ongoing conflict in southern Sudan may still preclude normal agricultural activity. A crop assessment mission of FAO and the World Food Programme (WFP) is scheduled to visit the Sudan in mid-November.

5. In February 1992, the Government introduced radical economic reforms to liberalize the economy by replacing State control with market forces. The Sudanese pound was allowed to float against other currencies; prices were liberalized at the production, factory and distribution levels; and Government subsidies for bread, sugar, benzine and diesel were reduced. In order to mitigate the impact of price increases, the minimum wage of public and private sector employees was increased and a child benefit supplement introduced. In spite of some start-up difficulties, the programme seems to be succeeding in improving the basic economy of the country. However, there is still some concern that the rise in prices puts cereals beyond the reach of the urban poor.

6. In spite of concerns expressed by the international community, the Government has pursued a policy of relocating squatters and displaced persons from Khartoum to sites on the periphery of the city, the furthest being 40 km distant. It is estimated that approximately 700,000 people have already been moved and the full dimension of the programme has not been clarified. In the absence of adequate preparation, the relocation centres lack adequate food, water, health and sanitation services as well as shelter and employment opportunities.

7. The situation for the increasing numbers of newly displaced people, returnees and other war-affected people has become desperate. The last 12 months have witnessed the return of some 270,000 refugees from Ethiopia in the Upper Nile region; the fractioning of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA), which has led to large-scale fighting in the southern part of the Upper Nile region, forcing more than 200,000 people to flee their homes; and an intensified Government offensive which has led to active conflict in Upper Nile, eastern Equatoria and many parts of Bahr el-Ghazal. It is estimated that approximately 900,000 people are now in need of relief assistance in southern Sudan.

8. The situation in other areas is no less critical. Large numbers of displaced persons have fled to southern Darfur, southern Kordofan and the Upper Nile area. Many came from Bahr el-Ghazal, fleeing from insecurity and the loss of crops caused by heavy rains and flooding. Approximately 50,000 people from the Nuba mountains have been displaced because of military actions in the area and many of these have been moved to the northern part of the region.

9. The resolution of the civil conflict in the Sudan remains key to resolving the plight of the people in the Sudan. Peace talks between the Government and the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) were convened on 25 May 1992 in Nigeria under the auspices of the President of Nigeria in his capacity also as President of the Organization of African Unity (OAU). While a cease-fire was not agreed upon, the joint communiqué issued at the conclusion of the meeting committed the participants to continued talks, and consultations to that end are taking place. In the meantime, however, there has been no diminution in the conflict.

III. EMERGENCY OPERATIONS AND OPERATION LIFELINE SUDAN

Consolidated inter-agency appeals

10. Emergency requirements for the Sudan, including requirements for Operation Lifeline Sudan, have been reflected in the consolidated inter-agency appeals for the Special Emergency Programme for the Horn of Africa launched by the Secretary-General in January and July 1992. Urgent requirements identified in those appeals totalled $281.5 million. As at 21 September, the shortfall in response to these requirements totalled $130.1 million.

11. An FAO/WFP assessment mission of November 1991 estimated that some 5.2 million drought-affected persons and 1.9 million displaced persons would require food assistance in 1992. Taking into consideration the distribution capacity and the emergency food needs that the Government of the Sudan could reasonably and realistically meet from in-country production in the good harvest areas, 1992 requirements for imported emergency food aid were assessed at 745,000 metric tons. As at June 1992, 265,254 tons had been pledged by donors (see table 1). In addition, 143,500 tons were carried over from 1991, making the total contributions to the 1992 emergency relief operations 408,754 tons, or 54.7 per cent of requirements.

Table 1. Summary of donor food pledges, June 1992

Country/organization	Metric tons
United States of America	114 690
European Economic Community	113 839
United Kingdom	25 000
Canada	6 750
Australia	3 400
Finland	1 075
Denmark	500

12. With respect to non-food aid, table 2 shows proposed areas of intervention, estimated 1992 requirements and shortfalls as at 30 June 1992. The importance of the non-food aid component of humanitarian assistance efforts in the Sudan cannot be overemphasized and donors are urged to respond to the identified needs.

Table 2. Non-food aid: 1992 requirements and shortfalls

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Activity	1992 requirements	Shortfall at 30 June 1992
Health (UNICEF)	9 489	6 699
Water supply and sanitation (UNICEF)	6 039	3 469
Relief/shelter for displaced (UNICEF)	1 988	1 565
Nutritional assistance (UNICEF)	-2 096	1 592
Education inputs (UNICEF)	754	624
Malaria control (WHO)	3 000	2 576
Tuberculosis control (WHO)	1 780	1 646
Prevention of meningitis (WHO)	1 000	1 000
Emergency health delivery (WHO)	1 900	1 900
Emergency Preparedness (WHO)	253	253
Fishing gear (FAO)	1 500	1 500
Animal drugs and vaccines (FAO)	1 500	1 500
Agricultural hand tools (FAO)	2 400	1 560
Seeds, tools and technical assistance (FAO)	530	530
Emergency Unit (UNDP)	4 210	2 810
TOTAL	38 430	29 224

Operation Lifeline Sudan

13. The Government of the Sudan announced its relief policy for 1992 in February following the same guidelines as the 1991 relief policy. The principal provisions of the policy are that (a) relief aid allocated to States shall become the property of the State Relief Committees, which will be responsible for the allocation and reallocation of relief aid among regions within the concerned State; however, the desire of the concerned donor is to be taken into consideration; (b) the Government reaffirms its commitment to exempt relief aid from customs and duties, including any local duties of fees; (c) WFP shall continue to coordinate the inflow of relief aid to Port Sudan and help in its handling, as well as coordinate internal transport in collaboration with the Higher National Committee for Transportation; (d) arrangements will be made for donors to purchase part of relief needs (dura) in foreign currency up to a maximum of 100,000 tons. Purchasing shall be through the Agricultural Bank of Sudan.

14. In September 1992, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs visited the Sudan and held high-level discussions with the Government on means of improving the delivery of humanitarian assistance. The joint statement issued at the conclusion of that meeting reflects the following areas of agreement:

> "The Government of the Sudan reaffirmed its commitment to the principles of Operation Lifeline Sudan as a landmark in humanitarian assistance. The Government of the Sudan and the United Nations also reiterated their firm support for the Addis Ababa Declaration on Humanitarian Issues. Within the framework of those principles, the Government of Sudan and the United Nations reaffirmed the critical importance of access to all people in need of humanitarian assistance wherever they may be, respect for the neutrality of relief operations and the fundamental necessity for transparency. Agreement was reached on the following points:
>
> "1. The Government of the Sudan and the United Nations reviewed the operation of Operational Lifeline Sudan and agreed that effective mechanisms would be devised to provide prompt and effective humanitarian assistance, taking into account developments which would provide more means of implementation and the possibility of the increased utilization of food from national production.
>
> "2. The Government of the Sudan and the United Nations reconfirmed the responsibility of the Government in providing overall coordination of emergency relief assistance as set out in the Addis Ababa Declaration on Humanitarian Issues. The Government requested the United Nations to coordinate all relief assistance to populations in conflict-affected areas.

"3. The United Nations will endeavour to review its overall relief operations in the Sudan, including its office at Nairobi, with a view to enhancing overall operational coherence and effectiveness. The United Nations will also take the necessary measures to ensure that information is made available in a timely fashion to the Government of the Sudan.

"4. The Government of the Sudan will endeavour to streamline relevant governmental bodies and to review its coordination mechanisms, with a view to ensuring that emergency issues can be expeditiously addressed and resolved.

"5. The Government of the Sudan commits itself to providing the United Nations with access to all populations in need wherever they may be and to expediting procedures for the prompt and effective distribution of relief assistance within the framework of its sovereignty. The Government of the Sudan offered the use of corridors for the prompt delivery and distribution of humanitarian assistance ...

"6. The Government of the Sudan recognizes the useful role of non-governmental organizations in addressing humanitarian needs in the Sudan. The Government will intensify its efforts to facilitate the necessary procedures in order to expedite the entry, travel and work of non-governmental organizations, undertaken with full observance of national policies and laws.

"7. Agreement was reached on the need for the support of the United Nations and the international community to facilitate the voluntary return of Sudanese refugees and the voluntary repatriation of refugees from the neighbouring countries in the Sudan.

"8. The Government of the Sudan and the United Nations urged that special attention be given to protect minors caught up in conflict situations and the unaccompanied minor refugees in neighbouring countries. Both pledged to make every effort to facilitate the voluntary repatriation and reuniting of unaccompanied minors with their families.

"9. Both parties agreed that a concerted effort must be made, including the effective mobilization of resources, to support the transition from relief to recovery, rehabilitation and development in the Sudan, in the spirit of General Assembly resolution 46/182.

"10. The United Nations will appoint a special emissary for follow-up with the Government and to ensure that timely assistance is provided to all those in need throughout the country."

15. Agreement was also reached on the distribution of humanitarian assistance on two river corridors and to 21 destinations for air operation.

16. The Under-Secretary-General also met with representatives of the Torit and Nasir factions of SPLM to discuss the activities of Operation Lifeline Sudan in southern Sudan.

Operation Lifeline Sudan activities

17. After the arrival of 270,000 returnees to the Sobat basin and Pochalla in June 1992, Operation Lifeline Sudan committed almost all its resources to assisting the 150,000 who moved along the Sobat and the 20,000 at Pakok, while the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) did the same for the 100,000 at Pochalla. With significant non-governmental collaboration, reception centres were set up, returnees registered and relief and basic services were provided, including deliveries of WFP food supplies by airlift from Lokichokio, Kenya, airdrop from both Lokichokio and Khartoum, and barge from Kosti. In a highly effective collaborative effort by WFP, The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), returnees were assisted during the first months after their arrival and their eventual resettlement facilitated. One particularly disadvantaged group of Uduk- and Maban-speaking peoples from Blue Nile province were the last to leave Nasir; their settlement at Maiwut and return to homes in the Daga valley in April 1992 represents a successful completion of the emergency phase of the Sobat returnee relocation. ICRC also facilitated repatriation or resettlement of most of the returnees who came through Pochalla.

18. The southern operations of Operation Lifeline Sudan had expanded between January 1991 and January 1992, involving the collaboration of over 24 non-governmental organizations operating out of Kenya and Uganda. Remote locations were reached, new overland routes into Bahr el-Ghazal opened up and health, water, household food security and feeding programmes started across most of southern Sudan. With the continuing rift in SPLA and the recapture of many southern towns by the Government of the Sudan, the first months of 1992 saw considerable changes in the operation. Humanitarian agencies are finding it increasingly difficult to provide assistance to needy populations in all areas affected by hostilities, while access to them is much more arbitrary. United Nations flights were suspended for two months because of lack of clearance by all parties concerned, but flights to certain locations resumed in June 1992.

19. By mid-June 1992, the Operation's international presence in the southern areas had been reduced because of insecurity or inaccessibility, WFP air operations were continuing into SPLA-held areas in Upper Nile and a few garrison towns and WFP overland convoys were either moving through Uganda to the parts of Equatoria currently accessible or via the Nile routes.

20. After the factional fighting in the Bor-Kongor area, the United Nations and non-governmental organizations rapidly established relief in the form of food deliveries, feeding centres and medical services in December 1991. Malnourishment rates were very high and over 6,000 children were receiving supplementary foods from UNICEF. However, these activities had to be abandoned in January 1992 owing to the increased insecurity resulting from the hostilities between the Government of the Sudan and SPLA. By March 1992 about half of those who had been identified around Bor moved south and encamped at Ame south of Torit, where once more relief operations were initiated for their

assistance. In September 1992, two UNICEF staff members, a nurse working for an international non-governmental organization and a freelance journalist were killed while on mission in the area. The Secretary-General has ordered a full investigation of this incident. In the meantime, relief activities in the area have been suspended pending clarification of security conditions.

21. The 12,500 unaccompanied children and some 6,000 others who fled ahead of the fighting at Pochalla were camped at Narus where they were assisted by a multi-agency team to build a camp, provide water and organize health, food and temporary schooling, ICRC undertook tracing activities to be prepared to escort the children when all opposing groups would permit the children to return to their homes. Now rendered refugees in northern Kenya, they are being assisted under the coordination of UNHCR. Of the 2,000 unaccompanied children at Nasir, some 150 were repatriated by ICRC to western Upper Nile, while the others remain in a camp near the town.

22. When the Government of the Sudan announced its intention to move people displaced to Khartoum out of the city, members of the international community expressed their concern with the policy, the selection of relocation sites and with the destruction of homes prior to adequate preparation of new sites. While calling for a halt in further large-scale relocation programmes, donors have expressed their readiness to assist the Government in discharging its responsibilities towards those affected. While not condoning the Government's policy, the United Nations and non-governmental organizations have responded to the needs of the displaced by providing immediate emergency assistance. UNICEF has provided supplementary food, water and medicine and undertaken immunization activities. WFP has supplied food for general distribution and national and international non-governmental organizations continue to assist with emergency health, sanitation and feeding programmes. In March 1992, the Council of Ministers approved the World Bank-funded Khartoum structure plan, which outlines viable actions various government authorities should take as regards the displaced and squatter problem. In addition, the United Nations had developed medium-term and long-term proposals which include a project to improve urban management formulated to develop and demonstrate techniques and processes of residential area development, improvement and resettlement. The project, coordinated by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), is in the process of development. A comprehensive study will be undertaken to explore means of facilitating the self-repatriation or voluntary return of displaced persons to their areas of origin.

23. Activities initiated for the displaced in southern Darfur and southern Kordofan include pre-positioning of food, rehabilitation of water sources and provision of necessary medicines and shelter materials before the onset of rains when roads become impassable.

24. On 18 July, airlift operations to Juba were suspended for security reasons. By mid-August, it became clear that at least 300,000 men, women and children faced the threat of imminent starvation, all innocent victims of the continuing hostilities between the Government and SPLM. Given this desperate situation, airlift relief operations to Juba were relaunched on 20 August. In

spite of temporary suspensions, mainly for security reasons, this operation is continuing. The Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs visited Juba during his mission to the Sudan in September.

IV. REFUGEES

25. The end of May 1991 saw an influx into the Kassala area of eastern Sudan of over 50,000 military personnel and their dependants who fled Asmara and Keren in Ethiopia with the fall of the Mengistu regime. In collaboration with the Government of the Sudan and non-governmental organizations, UNHCR deployed an emergency task force into the area and medical, food and non-food supplies were diverted from ongoing programmes. After assurances of safety were given by the transitional Government of Ethiopia, an airlift operation began in July 1991 and by the end of November 50,945 people were returned to Ethiopia.

26. Negotiations on repatriation of Eritrean refugees in the Sudan have been under way with the Government of the Sudan and the provisional Government of Eritrea since December 1991. UNHCR is advocating the immediate implementation of small-scale support groups for organized returns. Proposals for an information campaign on the plans for voluntary repatriation of the refugees, as well as a socio-economic survey of the refugee population, have been discussed. However, the Eritrean authorities prefer a global approach, with a full assessment of needs.

27. A voluntary repatriation operation for Ugandan refugees took place in January and February 1992. Ugandan refugees at Juba were repatriated on the return flights of WFP chartered aircraft which were carrying food from Entebbe to Juba. The final flight took place on 21 February, and a total of 2,709 people were returned home.

28. As a result of political developments in Ethiopia in May 1991, a group of Ethiopian refugees fled across from western Ethiopia into the Nasir area of south-eastern Sudan. In February 1992, 102 of them were voluntarily repatriated back to Jima in western Ethiopia. The operation was carried out in two airlifts, using a WFP aircraft flying food into the Nasir area from Lokichokio in Kenya.

29. The voluntary repatriation operation for the return of some 3,000 out of 20,000 Chadian refugees in the refugee camps in the west of Sudan to Ouaddai and Biltine provinces in eastern Chad was completed in May 1992. Owing to delays in the finalization of the plan of operations, registration commenced one month later than anticipated. In that time, the security situation on the Chadian side of the border deteriorated, and plans to return the refugees to their home areas in time for the planting season were affected. It is planned to recommence the repatriation at the end of June 1992 to assist the remainder of the 12,000 refugees who had initially expressed the wish to return.

30. Some 447 Sudanese refugees in the Central African Republic have registered with UNHCR for voluntary repatriation to the Sudan. They are

located at M'boki, some 1,200 km from the capital Bangui. A French military aircraft has been made available for this operation, conditional on the operational costs being borne from other sources. It is planned to commence the operation to return the refugees to Khartoum by mid-June 1992.

V. RELIEF FOOD ASSISTANCE

31. The late arrival of food donated to the 1992 relief operation constrained WFP and non-governmental organization ability to pre-position food in affected areas early in 1992. It was not until the month of May that the first ship arrived in Port Sudan carrying 1992 food aid. In April, WFP deliveries to drought-affected areas in the north were reduced because of lack of food stocks in the country. However, the situation improved in May and June with the arrival of additional shipments and deliveries from local purchases of grain. In southern Sudan, the ban on grain exports from Kenya and Uganda has limited the option for WFP to procure food in those countries for delivery to affected areas throughout the south. By mid-June 1992, WFP had moved 113,000 tons from Port Sudan to primary centres, from where non-governmental organizations, working under the authority of State Relief Committees, had been able to move more than 97,000 tons to secondary destinations. Through Kenya and Uganda WFP moved 11,000 tons to southern Sudan. In addition to overland deliveries, complex air and barge operations were undertaken to deliver both food and non-food items to areas otherwise inaccessible by road. Since the beginning of the year, WFP has delivered 235 tons by barge to Nasir, and 1,250 tons to Malakal. In addition, airlift operations delivered 868 tons to Geneina, 1,217 tons to Wau, 5,130 tons to Juba via Khartoum and Entebbe and a total of 1,015 tons to Nasir, Akobo and Waat.

32. Despite the absence of a formal agreement between the Government of the Sudan, the SPLA factions and the United Nations, Operation Lifeline Sudan operated successfully in 1991, working under ad hoc agreements. The United Nations and non-governmental organizations managed to deliver almost 70,000 tons of food relief to southern Sudan: more than 42,690 tons to SPLA-held areas and 26,797 tons to government-held areas. For the first time since 1984, the Sobat river route was opened and WFP barges delivered supplies to the Government town of Malakal and to the SPLA-held area of Nasir. Road convoys from Uganda and Kenya delivered 6,908 tons to areas in southern Sudan.

VI. NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE

33. UNICEF continued a wide range of non-food activities throughout the accessible areas of the Sudan, including newly opened areas like Bentiu in Upper Nile, which had not seen relief assistance since 1985. It has also responded with supplementary food, essential drugs, shelter materials and emergency water interventions to provide immediate relief assistance to the massive influx of displaced persons into southern Darfur and southern Kordofan in April and May 1992. Despite frequent suspensions of relief flights in both the northern and southern sectors, relief assistance reached a significant

percentage of vulnerable groups. This assistance included health services, with special attention to immunization, control of diarrhoeal diseases, provision of essential drugs, nutrition including supplementary feeding and household food security, as well as water supply, sanitation, basic education, relief and shelter.

34. UNICEF health and nutrition interventions focused on emergency action to reduce mortality and morbidity through critical curative services closely linked to preventive health care, provision of life-saving essential drugs, immunization, crash training of health personnel, promotion of oral rehydration therapy and health education of mothers and children, supplementary feeding of vulnerable children and pregnant women and breast-feeding mothers, while providing them with high energy food, vitamins A and C, iron and folic acid. Materials and equipment for feeding centres and to carry out nutrition surveillance were also provided. Region-specific country-wide nutrition surveys were funded.

35. Of the estimated 7.6 million people affected in 1991, about 5.4 million are in the northern States, while 2.3 million are in the southern states. From November 1991 to February 1992, large-scale relocations of the displaced took place to the periphery of Khartoum and in April and May 1992, 115,000 displaced reached the transition zone in southern Kordofan and southern Darfur and are now in and around towns like Abyei, Meiram, Kadugli and Ed Daien, towns totally unprepared and without the resources to cope with such a massive and continuing influx. Such unexpected, large-scale concentrations of the destitute have made planning and provision of assistance to scattered and inaccessible locations fraught with logistical and other difficulties.

36. To prevent epidemics and minimize mortality in malnourished children among the concentrations of displaced, the age of immunization was increased from 0-1 years to 0-5 years of age. An estimated 1.4 million children and 1.8 million women of child-bearing age were identified as beneficiaries. In the drought- and conflict-affected areas of Darfur and southern Kordofan, 50 per cent of the children were immunized. Among the displaced in Khartoum, 65 per cent of the children were immunized. In garrison towns like Wau, Juba and Malakal, high coverage rates were achieved by the end of 1991. However, sporadic air accessibility to the garrison towns during the first half of 1992 has depleted vaccine and syringe and needle stocks and prevented regular cold chain monitoring. Cattle vaccination through Lokichokio boosted the child immunization coverage in conflict areas.

37. In the almost total absence of drug imports by the government and commercial sectors, UNICEF has inevitably become the major provider of essential drugs. Timely pre-positioning and delivery of essential life-saving drugs to affected areas has been the main activity. However, because of funding constraints only 306 out of 13,000 and 357 out of 1,300 supplementary drug kits necessary for the 7.6 million affected people were distributed.

38. It was estimated early in 1991 that over a million children under five years of age in the affected areas were at risk of increased morbidity and

mortality from diarrhoeal diseases. To avert epidemics in these areas, UNICEF, in collaboration with the national programme for the control of diarrhoeal disease, the World Health Organization (WHO) and non-governmental organizations, developed a contingency emergency preparedness plan in July 1991. Under that plan, 100 oral rehydration therapy corners, where mothers are instructed in oral rehydration techniques and provided with oral rehydration salts, were established. Six million sachets of salts have been distributed, providing coverage for the estimated one million children. Essential emergency supplies like intravenous fluids, drugs and basic equipment were pre-positioned to cope with any serious outbreak of diarrhoeal disease. As a result, an imminent threat of cholera in Darfur from across the Chad border was averted.

39. Training in emergency health interventions of 430 key health personnel has been completed and 2,300 health workers and volunteers are undergoing training in 19 high-risk provinces. To ensure continuous vigilance and rapid response, the surveillance system is being strengthened through upgrading of communications equipment. A further 100 oral rehydration therapy corners are being established in high risk areas and additional stocks of oral rehydration salts and other essential supplies have been ordered.

40. Working closely with local and international non-governmental organizations, UNICEF has focused on the improvement of the nutritional status of 312,700 vulnerable children under five years old. One hundred and twenty supplementary feeding centres and over 700 dry UNIMIX distribution points have been established, over 700 feeding centre workers trained, 4,575 tons of UNIMIX, sufficient for 190,000 malnourished children for four months, have been distributed, and 2 million capsules of vitamin A provided. High energy biscuits were provided to malnourished children in Upper Nile, Bahr el-Ghazal and Equatoria and over 100 tons of UNIMIX was airdropped or flown into Nasir when the returnees crossed the Ethiopian border.

41. Production capacity of UNIMIX has been stepped up from 8 tons to 40 tons per day, through the importation of machinery. This has enabled the production of greatly increased quantities of high-energy supplementary food. However, of the 2,712 tons needed in the first half of 1992, only 1,256 tons has been distributed, because of the late arrival of raw materials and funding constraints.

42. A monitoring mechanism for nutritional status has been established to target assistance to priority areas. Support to health authorities to conduct regular region-specific nutrition surveys has been provided; nine such surveys have been completed, revealing malnutrition rates from 15 per cent to 38 per cent. These rates are likely to deteriorate as the year progresses and the harvest is consumed, while the affected population does not have the purchasing power to buy staple cereals.

43. UNICEF provided water and sanitation to a targeted 510,000 drought- and war-displaced persons in Kordofan, Darfur, Eastern, Central and Khartoum States. Water and sanitation activities in Upper Nile, Equatoria and Bahr

el-Ghazal States were carried out by the southern operations of Operation Lifeline Sudan from Lokichokio and by UNICEF offices in the southern garrison towns of Wau, Juba and Malakal.

44. In Kordofan, 700 handpumps were installed serving 140,000 people and 3,100 ventilated improved latrines and 30 six-seated school latrines were constructed, serving 27,700 persons. To disseminate hygiene and health messages to 200,000 villagers, 228 village health committees were formed. In 200 villages, 418 pump mechanics were trained, and 112 home-gardens were established near new handpumps, providing income for village women.

45. In Gedarief, Durdeib, Toker and Halayed in Eastern State, 11 submersible pumps were installed, serving 20,000 people. Four open dug wells were excavated and two 5,000-gallon concrete water tanks constructed, serving 10,000 people.

46. Geophysical investigation of 100 sites at Dinder, Damazine, Singa and Sennar in Central State has started and special drilling equipment and consumables required for this area have been ordered.

47. In Khartoum, 360 handpumps were installed, serving 180,000 people. However, displaced populations around 290 of these handpumps have been relocated, rendering them infructuous. Since January, the water trucking operations of a non-governmental organization providing 275,000 litres daily to a new camp for displaced persons are being supported.

48. Distribution of seeds and agricultural tools has been carried out by FAO, UNICEF and various non-governmental organizations. As a result of the February appeal for the Special Emergency Programme in the Horn of Africa, FAO received sufficient funds to supply 3,158 metric tons of millet seed and 639 tons of sorghum seed. FAO has also provided vegetable seeds and hand tools to the southern region. Save the Children Fund of the United Kingdom has supplied Darfur State with 4,000 tons of millet seed, and 50 tons of UNDP-funded maize seed has been delivered to Juba.

49. Plastic sheeting sufficient for 3,500 families and 20,000 blankets were distributed through non-governmental organizations to the displaced persons newly relocated in Khartoum, Kosti, Dilling, Kadugli and Meiram.

VII. ACTION TAKEN BY MEMBER STATES AND UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATIONS

50. In addition to the activities described above, several Member States and United Nations organizations have provided information on action taken in compliance with General Assembly resolution 46/178.

A. Member States

Denmark

51. Danish emergency assistance to the Sudan in 1991 amounted to DKr 2 million, of which 1 million was channelled through the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator (UNDRO) and 1 million through Danish non-governmental organizations.

Germany

52. In 1992 the German Government will support two food aid projects in the Sudan. The overall amount of the first project will be DM 185,400, consisting of DM 176,400 for non-cereals and DM 9,000 for the cost of transportation. The overall amount of the second project will be DM 816,908, consisting of DM 503,201 for non-cereals and DM 313,707 for the transportation costs. The country of purchase for the non-cereals is Uganda.

53. Furthermore, the German Government made the following special contributions to multilateral organizations for humanitarian assistance to the Sudan:

		DM
1991:	UNHCR	1 million
	UNICEF	1 million
1992:	ICRC	1 million

54. In addition, the following amounts were provided by German non-governmental organizations:

		DM
1991:	German Red Cross	1 082 500
	Diakonisches Werk	1 000 000
	German-Arabic-Society	13 000
1992:	Human I	2 162
	Human I	2 340
	Africa in Need	185 000

Indonesia

55. In order to support the efforts of the Sudan to alleviate the problems of displaced persons and to respond to the appeal made in the consolidated inter-agency appeal for the Special Emergency Programme for the Horn of Africa, the Government of Indonesia has contributed US$ 10,000, presented to the Permanent Mission of the Sudan to the United Nations on 4 June 1992.

Norway

56. Norway's assistance to the Sudan for natural disaster relief was as follows:

	Norwegian kroner
UNICEF: 100 metric tons of BP-5 biscuits	2 623 400
Norwegian Church Aid: 45 tons BP-5 biscuits, emergency stocks	1 186 213
Norwegian Save the Children (Redd Barna): purchase of food (unspecified)	1 785 000
WFP: 8 Rubbhalls	1 000 000
Norwegian Church Aid: 4 Rubbhalls, emergency stocks	500 000
Norwegian Church Aid: cash contribution for relief aid programme in Juba	9 875 000
Norwegian Red Cross/ICRC: emergency relief aid to internal refugees in southern Sudan, medical and technical personnel	2 000 000
Norwegian Red Cross: emergency relief operations	1 000 000
Norwegian Peoples Aid: emergency relief operations	4 000 000

Poland

57. During the present academic year there are 108 students from the Sudan in Poland. The annual cost of education of one student is US$ 4,000.

Republic of Korea

58. During 1991, the Government of the Republic of Korea provided the Sudan with emergency humanitarian food assistance (1,000 tons of rice) and medical goods, at a total value of US$ 610,000.

Sweden

59. During fiscal year 1990/91 Sweden allocated SKr 63,378,000 to the Sudan for disaster relief and reconstruction. Other forms of disaster-related

assistance amounted to approximately SKr 20 million. Concerning disaster relief during fiscal year 1991/92, approximately SKr 7,529,000 has been allocated.

Turkey

60. Turkey has signed a technical assistance agreement with the Sudan and made a financial contribution of $2,215,000 to a project for the construction of a 50-bed hospital. Construction of the hospital is to begin in 1992.

61. In addition, seven representatives from the Sudan have participated in group training programmes in Turkey, in which all their expenses were met by the Turkish Agency for Cooperation.

B. United Nations organizations

United Nations Children's Fund

62. In response to the large-scale needs created by drought, displacement and conflict in the Sudan, UNICEF has continued to implement programmes of child immunization, rehabilitation of basic services, production of high protein foods and implementation of basic water and sanitation programmes. In the south, projects in both Government-held and rebel-held territories have included the provision of seeds, tools, medical, educational and supplementary food supplies, as well as shelter and other relief materials. Through the special role of UNICEF as part of Operation Lifeline Sudan, it was possible to reach children caught behind the firing lines in southern Sudan.

World Food Programme

63. Because of the limited response from donors, the 1991 Sudan emergency operation was started late, towards the end of March. The overall emergency food needs, which were originally estimated at 1.2 million tons, were revised to 785,000 tons in the September 1991 appeal for the Special Emergency Programme for the Horn of Africa. At the end of 1991, 719,400 tons were contributed, representing 92 per cent of revised needs. The quantity of food delivered to the Sudan amounted to 672,000 tons, or 86 per cent of the revised needs, including some 55,800 tons of 1990 carry-over stocks delivered during 1991.

64. Although food production in the mechanized and irrigated areas increased significantly in 1992, the traditional subsistence farming areas have not recovered. The Government is committed to making 100,000 tons of cereals available for local purchase to support ongoing relief operations. Some 47,000 tons have been purchased so far by WFP and the European Economic Community. It is hoped that additional funds will be made available to purchase the remaining 53,000 tons. The obstacles that relief agencies have

to contend with include not only the continuing civil strife, but also inaccessibility to many areas because of restrictions imposed by the Government of the Sudan and SPLA. Despite these constraints, WFP, in collaboration with the non-governmental organizations, has been able to prevent large-scale starvation by delivering food aid to the affected areas by a combination of road, airlift and barge operations.

65. The appeal in February 1992 for the Special Emergency Programme estimated emergency food needs at 745,000 tons. As at 30 June 1992, about 285,400 tons have been pledged. Taking into account the 1991 carry-over stock of 143,500 tons, a total of 428,900 tons have been made available for distribution in 1992. The additional requirements for the second half of 1992 are 97,700 tons of cereals, 38,100 tons of vegetable oil, 3,810 tons of sugar, and 2,110 tons of dried skim milk. These significant quantities of non-cereals are required because the 1992 shipments and carry-over stocks consisted mainly of cereals.

66. WFP will continue to be responsible for the overall coordination of emergency food aid and for the receipt, clearance, port handling and primary transport of relief shipments on behalf of all agencies involved in the 1992 Sudan emergency operation. Non-governmental organizations will continue to be responsible for the secondary transport to distribution sites and for distribution itself to the beneficiaries. Deliveries to southern Sudan will continue to be made within the framework of Operation Lifeline Sudan.

United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

67. In March 1992, Habitat carried out a preliminary appraisal-cum-identification mission, focusing on the needs of vulnerable groups, notably the squatters of Khartoum and displaced persons. A follow-up needs assessment mission related to displaced persons and squatters was carried out in two stages during April and May 1992.

68. On the basis of the findings of those missions, a Habitat project will be elaborated shortly with a focus on:

(a) Addressing the shelter needs of those living in squatter settlements or on sites earmarked for clearance;

(b) Upgrading and supplementing the basic services at the relocation sites to a minimum level of acceptability;

(c) Development of employment-generating activities.

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

69. During the period under review, UNHCR provided assistance to some 300,000 Ethiopian refugees living in 20 rural settlements and six reception centres in

eastern Sudan. In addition, some 20,000 Chadians living in three rural settlements in Darfur were provided with food. It is estimated that another 700,000 Ethiopian refugees were spontaneously settled along the eastern border of the Sudan with Ethiopia and in major urban areas. UNHCR assistance to the Ethiopian refugees in the organized settlements consisted of regular care and maintenance, including health, education, logistics, physical infrastructure, water and sanitation and agriculture, as well as administrative support, while full food rations were provided by WFP. Unfortunately, climatic conditions did not enable the refugees in the rural settlements to grow sufficient food and UNHCR and WFP were compelled to provide full food rations both in the settlements and in the reception centres.

70. During the second half of 1991, UNHCR, in coordination with the Governments of the Sudan and Ethiopia, repatriated by airlift some 50,000 ex-soldiers of the former Ethiopian regime who had fled from garrisons in Eritrea into the Kassala area of the Sudan. In Ethiopia, this group, which also included a small number of civilians and dependants, was received by ICRC, which assisted them to return to their places of origin. UNHCR expenditure for this operation amounted to some $10,000.

71. A plan of operation to repatriate some 12,000 of the total of 20,000 Chadians was prepared at the beginning of 1992. By the end of May 1992, some 3,000 had been repatriated. The remaining 9,000 of those registered for return chose to stay in the Sudan because of the unclear security situation in Chad and the late start of the operation, which meant that most of the refugees had prepared their land for the next harvest. It is expected that UNHCR will resume the repatriation of the remaining Chadians by the end of 1992 after the harvest.

72. With the changing political situation in Ethiopia and Eritrea, UNHCR started discussions with the Sudanese and Eritrean authorities on the procedures for a large-scale organized repatriation of Eritreans, including the registration, transportation by road, reception in Eritrea and integration of an estimated 250,000 returnees. In view of the massive destruction of Eritrea during a long civil war, the country, including the areas to which refugees will return, needs major infrastructural assistance to make the successful integration of large numbers of returnees possible. Such a rehabilitation/developmental programme is clearly beyond the mandate of UNHCR. Discussions and negotiations coordinated by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are taking place with the other United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and the provisional Government of Eritrea, to establish the programme and responsibility for its implementation. Pending the start of the large-scale organized repatriation, UNHCR has agreed to assist the provisional Government of Eritrea with its reception and integration of limited numbers of people who return spontaneously from the Sudan to Eritrea.

73. With the change of regime in Ethiopia, some 200,000 Sudanese refugees accommodated in camps in western Ethiopia were forced to return to the Sudan. UNHCR contributed some $1 million to cover non-food items, logistic support

and staff to Operation Lifeline Sudan, the lead agency to assist needy populations in southern Sudan, including the returnees.

United Nations Environment Programme

74. During the reporting period, cooperation by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) was extended in the following areas:

Environmental education and training

75. A fellowship was provided by UNEP (US$ 1,200) to enable a government expert to participate in the work of the Second Conference of the African Soil Science Society.

Environmental legislation and machinery

76. UNEP initiated actions to review the adequacy of current institutional arrangements and also to harmonize existing sectoral laws on the environment, with a view to putting in place comprehensive national environmental legislation.

Desertification control

77. Existing cooperation in the implementation of national projects to combat desertification continued during the reporting period.

Institute of Environmental Studies

78. Cooperation between UNEP and the Institute of Environmental Studies (IES) is being promoted largely within the framework of the Cairo Programme of Action of the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN). IES serves as a centre of excellence of the AMCEN Network on Environmental Education and Training, whose membership is drawn from African national institutions active in this area.

79. Through the Cairo Programme of Action, Sudan's institutions participate in the seven other regional technical cooperation networks in priority subject areas essential to environmental rehabilitation and management, namely, environmental monitoring; climatology; water resources; energy; soils and fertilizers; genetic resources; science and technology.

Subregional level

80. Through the cooperative activities of UNEP with the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development, Sudan's natural resources management efforts, especially in the area of desertification, receive additional impetus and support.

81. Sudan is a member of the Eastern African Subregional Environment Group (EASREG), one of five such groups established and sponsored by UNEP for promoting subregional cooperation concerning the environment. EASREG is a grouping of heads of national environmental departments or institutions and provides a forum for identifying country-specific environmental problems as well as environmental issues requiring subregional cooperation. The work of EASREG, which is fully supported by UNEP, has had a positive impact on environmental management in the region.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

82. Crop and food supply assessment missions to the Sudan were fielded jointly by FAO and WFP in November-December 1991, and the Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS) assessed the wheat crop in April 1992. In addition to the special reports of the findings of the missions issued in December 1991 and May 1992, FAO provided input to the consolidated inter-agency appeal for the Horn of Africa issued on 1 February 1992. GIEWS continues to monitor the food supply situation and requirements for assistance in the Sudan and to disseminate information in its regular reports, Foodcrops and Shortages and Food Outlook, and the Special Africa Report.

83. Following donors' pledges against the inter-agency appeal, FAO is currently implementing three projects, on urgent provision of technical assistance to evaluate requirements for basic agricultural inputs and monitor their distribution; urgent local purchase of staple grains for use as seeds; and urgent local purchase of staple grains.

World Health Organization

84. Within the context of the Special Emergency Programme for the Horn of Africa, WHO appealed for US$ 7.9 million for a full year for humanitarian assistance programmes in the health sector. To date response to this appeal totalled $558,000, from two donors, Canada and Sweden. These funds were programmed and obligated within two weeks of their receipt by WHO for use in a malaria control programme and a tuberculosis programme.

85. The bulk of assistance went for the purchase of drugs, insecticides and spraying equipment. The malaria control programme concentrated its assistance to Darfur, central Kordofan, Red Sea Hills, Khartoum and Southern State, while the tuberculosis programme targeted two areas where tuberculosis cases have been on the rise, namely, in Eastern State (Gadarif and Halfa el-Gadida) and the displaced population living around Khartoum.